

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 IO-10

SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05 EURE-00 /079 W

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P R 131630Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1152

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS NICOSIA 0615

DEPT PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY

SUBJ: INITIAL DENKTASH REACTION TO GOC PROPOSALS

1. SUMMARY: IN VOA INTERVIEW BROADCAST FEBRUARY 12, DENKTASH DESCRIBED GREEK CYPRIOT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FEBRUARY 10 AS "GOOD IMPROVEMENT IN MAKARIOS' APPROACH TO PROBLEM" AND "SHOW OF REALISM IN A SENSE." WHILE POINTING OUT DEFICIENCIES (FROM TURK CYPRIOT POINT OF VIEW), DENKTASH DECLARED PROPOSALS HAVE "POSITIVE ASPECTS", INDICATED THAT "WE MUST NOT REJECT IT OUTRIGHT". DENKTASH REPEATED STRONG DEMAND FOR BIREGIONAL FEDERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. ASKED IF HE SAW GREEK CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AS BASIS FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION, DENKTASH REPLIED: "WELL, THE FACT THAT WE HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN A PAPER WHICH SAYS THAT THE CYPRUS STATE SHALL BE A BICOMMUNAL STATE IS A GOOD IMPROVEMENT IN MAKARIOS' APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM BECAUSE FOR SINCE 1960'S THE IDEA THAT CYPRUS WAS A

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BICOMMUNAL STATE. AND IT WAS. SO HE HAS ACCEPTED THIS AFTER ALL

THESE YEARS. 14 YEARS IS A LONG TIME, BUT HE HAS(ACCEPTED) YOU SEE. THEN THEY ARE OFFERING GEOGRAPHICAL FEDERATION, SOMETHING WHICH A FEW MONTHS AGO MAKARIOS REJECTED FLATLY IN LONDON AND THEN IN NEW YORK. SO THAT ALSO IS A SHOW OF REALISM IN A SENSE. BUT THERE THE WHOLE THING STOPS. THEY STILL TRY TO PASS OVER FEDERALISM IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY SHALL BE THE MASTER OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS BY 80 PCT. MAJORITY AND SO THAT ALTHOUGH WE SHALL CALL OURSELVES A FEDERAL STATE, (WE WOULD HAVE) NONE OF THE EQUALITY WHICH A FEDERAL STATE SEEMS TO PROVIDE. SO IT IS A VERY CLEVER SORT OF OFFER, ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR THE WORLD, AND NOT FOR US REALLY. IT IS A POLITICAL PROPAGANDA MOVE. BUT IT HAS ITS POSITIVE ASPECTS. IT IS ONE STEP FORWARD IN THOSE TWO POINTS I HAVE SAID, (AND) WE SHALL TAKE IT UP FROM THERE.

3. IN REPLY TO QUERY CONCERNING TO FUTURE OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, DENKTASH SAID HE SAW NO OTHER VEHICLE AND AFFIRMED NECESSITY FOR CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS "WHETHER WE LIKE THEIR OFFERS OR NOT, WHETHER THEY LIKE OUR OFFERS OR NOT".

4. COMMENTING ON WHETHER OR NOT MAKARIOS WAS MAKING BONA FIDE OFFER TO BEGIN SERIOUS DISCUSSION, DENKTASH SAID:
"AS ANYTHING WHICH COMES FROM ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, WHICH HAS COME FROM ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS OVER THE YEARS, IT IS MORE TAKE THAN GIVE. AND THEREFORE, WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH IT, WE MUST NOT REJECT IT OUTRIGHT, WE MUSTN'T ACCEPT IT AS HAVING BEEN GIVEN IN GOOD FAITH BECAUSE WE KNOW THE MAN BEHIND IT. (IT IS) I THINK, I REPEAT, AN OFFER, AN EYEWASH TO THE WORLD THAN A GENUINE OFFER TO THE TURK. IT IS NOT A REALISTIC OFFER.

5. DENKTASH WAS ASKED TO DESCRIBE IN BROAD TERMS TURKISH CYPRIOT PRINCIPLES FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION. AFTER STANDARD STATEMENT OF NEED FOR SECURITY FROM GREEK OPPRESSION, EQUALITY, REMOVAL OF DISCRIMINATION, DENKTASH REJECTED IDEA OF CANTONAL SOLUTION AND UNDERLINED REQUIREMENT FOR BIREGIONAL FEDERALISM AS FOLLOWS:
"WHEN WE SPEAK OF BIREGIONAL FEDERALISM WE MEAN A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN WHICH WE SHALL PARTICIPATE SO THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE CYPRIOT, SO THAT THIS GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT BE GOING AROUND THE WORLD ACCUSING THE TURKS, AND PRETENDING THAT CYPRUS IS GREEK AND THAT GREEKS WANT UNION AND SO ON. THAT STORY SHALL NOT BE REPEATED. AND ON OUR REGION, WE SHALL BE THE MASTERS OF OUR OWN
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ENTERPRISES, OF OUR OWN DAY-TO-DAY ADMINISTRATION. SO, YOU KNOW WHAT FEDERALISM IS. WE WANT A GOOD FEDERAL STATE, A SOUND ONE."
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NICOSI00615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750052-1123
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750246/aaaabpdh.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INITIAL DENKTASH REACTION TO GOC PROPOSALS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, (DENKTASH, RAUF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006